

MARY TAYLOR MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Whoever you are, wherever you are on your spiritual journey, you are welcome here.

168 Broad Street

Phone: 203.874.1982

Milford, Connecticut 06460

FAX: 203.877.8973

Order of Worship

10:00 a.m.

(* Those who are able may stand. °°° Late arrivals will be seated.)

THE BELL TOLLS – *Welcoming us to worship God*

PRELUDE “Meditation” A. Johnson

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

(In order to keep our service time focused on the worship of God, please share only those items which are not already in the bulletin or on the flyer table. Thank you.)

A BRIEF RECOGNITION OF OUR VETERANS

INTROIT “Lord, Be Glorified”

*CALL TO WORSHIP **Based on Psalm 145**

Leader: O God, every day we bless you and praise your name forever.

People: ***Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; your greatness, O God, is unsearchable.***

Leader: You fulfill the desire of all in awe of you; you hear their cries and save them.

All: ***My mouth will speak the praise of the Lord, and bless your name forever. Let us worship God!***

*HYMN #399 “Take My Life, and Let It Be Consecrated” Messiah

A COLLECT FOR VETERAN’S DAY *(unison)*

Almighty God, our help in every time of trouble: Direct the course of our world; lead the nations into like-mindedness and fellowship; prosper all counsels which make for the establishment of peace; so that the sacrifice of our veterans may hasten the day when swords are beaten into plowshares and spears into pruning hooks; in the name of the Prince of Peace, Jesus Christ our Lord, we pray. Amen.

°°°

ESPECIALLY FOR THE CHILDREN

PRAYERS OF PETITION AND INTERCESSION

Leader: Lord, in Your mercy, **People: Hear our prayer.**

THE LORD’S PRAYER Hymnal #895

*THE PEACE

L: May the peace of the Lord be always with you. P: ***And also with you.***
(Greet one another with signs of Christ’s peace.)

STEWARDSHIP SPOTLIGHT

Paul and Bev Downing

“What influenced you to step out of your comfort zone to express your love for God with generous giving and how is it working for you?”

*THE GOSPEL Mark 4:1-9 Bible p.913
Reader: The Gospel of the Lord. People: ***Praise to you, Lord Christ.***

THE SERMON “Sowing the Future” Dr. Bodt

MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

HYMN #2036 *(seated, insert)* “Give Thanks” Give Thanks

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS, along with our
2013 “EXTRAVAGANT GENEROSITY” ESTIMATES OF GIVING
and a SPECIAL OFFERING FOR HURRICANE RELIEF

Offertory “A Lord-Built House” R. Lentz
*Presentation: “The Doxology” Hymnal #95

“Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him all creatures here below; Praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.”

*UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Eternal God, we bring you these gifts and commitments because we know that our life and all human life rightfully belong to you. Everything we have we hold in trust from you. We praise you for everything you have done for our world in Jesus Christ. Help us, through him, to make our offering complete by living obedience to you. Amen.

*HYMN #354 “I Surrender All” Surrender
(As many as desire may kneel at the Communion rail for silent prayer as we commit ourselves and our gifts for Christ’s work in 2013.)

*THE BENEDICTION

*THE BENEDICTION RESPONSE Hymnal #666
(You are invited to join hands with those near you as we sing.)

Shalom to you now, shalom, my friends. May God’s full mercies bless you, my friends. In all your living and through your loving, Christ be your shalom.

*THE BELL TOLLS – *Sending us to walk with and witness for Jesus*

*POSTLUDE "Vivace" R. Smith
(During the postlude you may leave following the pastor or remain seated).

THE WORSHIP IS ENDED: THE SERVICE BEGINS.

Sources of liturgy and prayers for today's service are Holy Scripture, *The United Methodist Hymnal* (1989), and *The Faith We Sing* (2000). "A Collect for Veteran's Day" is adapted by the Pastor from a prayer in *The Book of Worship for Church and Home* (1965).

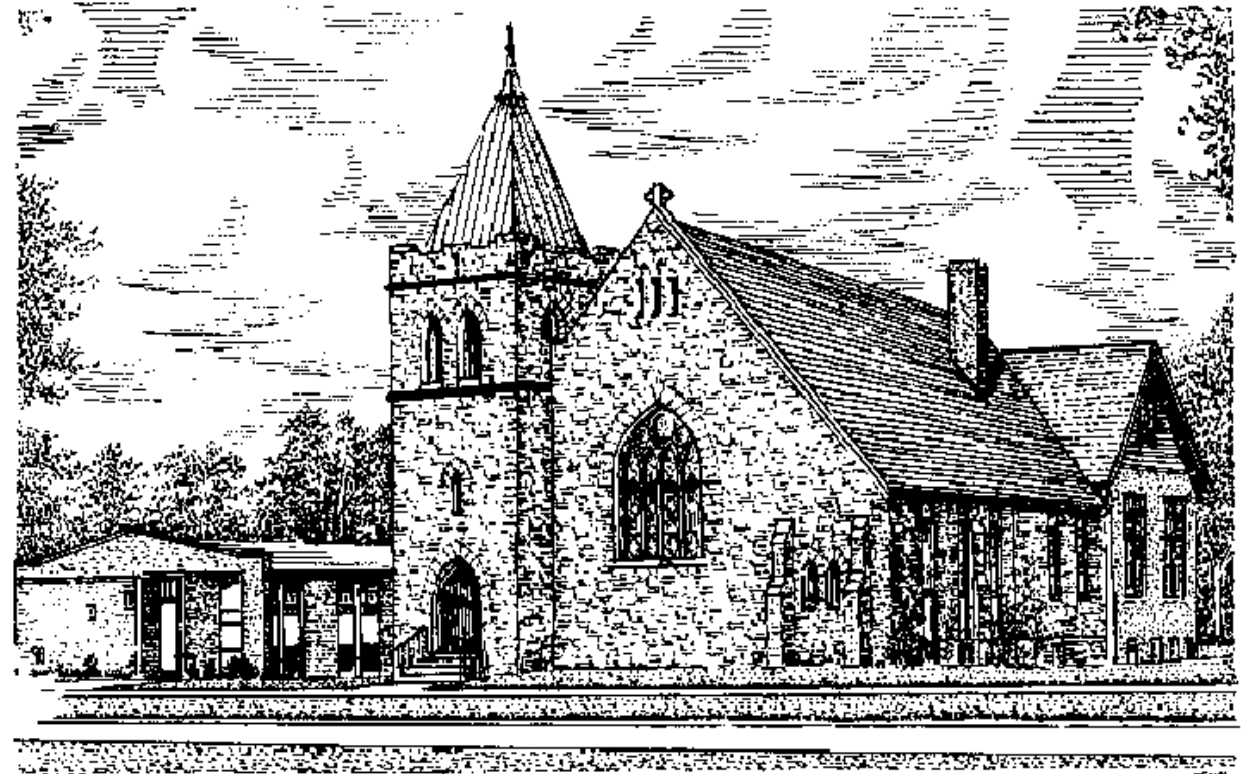
MARY TAYLOR MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Website: www.mtm-umc.org www.facebook.com/MTMUMC

E-mail: mtmumc@sbcglobal.net

Ministers	All the People of God	Bishop	The Rev. Dr. Martin D. McLee
Lay Leaders	Kelly O'Hara & Leigh Bak	Superintendent	The Rev. Kenneth Kieffer
Prayer Chain	Stacy Meszaros	Pastor	The Rev. Dr. Brian R. Bodt
Child Care Coordinator	Betty Laferriere	Pastoral Assistant	The Rev. Harold V.W. Vink
Administrative Assistant	Suzanne Miko	Music Director	Dr. Richard L. Riccardi
Sexton	Bruce Rumford		

PLEASE NOTE: Should there be a medical or other emergency during worship service, someone designated by the head usher will call #911. Do not call on your cell phone. Multiple calls are unnecessary and may delay response. Thank you.



Mary Taylor Memorial United Methodist Church

First Methodist Church in Milford: 1843
Current building dedicated: 1893
Merged with Myrtle Beach Community Church: 1969

*Whoever you are, wherever you are
on your spiritual journey, you are welcome here.*

COMMITMENT SUNDAY/VETERAN'S DAY
The Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost
November 11, 2012

~Calendar at Mary Taylor Memorial~

Sunday, November 11

Pentecost 24/Commitment Sunday/Veteran's Day
9 a.m. Sunday School for all ages; 10:00 a.m. Worship
4 p.m. Confirmation – Wesley Center
5- 7 p.m. MYF “Mission Possible” Meeting – Dodd Hall

Monday, November 12

7 p.m. Service of Healing & Wholeness – Dodd Hall

Tuesday, November 13

10 a.m. United Methodist Women – Dodd Hall
10:30 a.m. Tres Dias Luncheon – Wesley Center
5 p.m. Community Suppers volunteers – Wesley Center
6 p.m. Confirmation Class – Wesley Center
7 p.m. Disciple II – Wesley Center
7 p.m. Revelation Bible Study – Wesley Center

Wed., November 14

10 a.m. Revelation Bible Study – Wesley Center
5 – 5:45 p.m. Praisemakers Choir practice – Dodd Hall
6:30 p.m. Bell Choir – Dodd Hall
6:30 p.m. Gay-Straight Alliance meeting – Wesley Center
7:45 p.m. Adult Choir – Dodd Hall

Thursday, November 15

“BEACON” deadline: articles to mtmumc@sbcglobal.net
6:30 p.m. Staff-Parish Relations Committee – Wesley Center
7:30 p.m. Church Conference – Dodd Hall

Sunday, November 18

Pentecost 25/Thanksgiving Sunday/Bible Sunday
9 a.m. Sunday School for all ages – Wesley Center
10:00 a.m. Worship and Reception of New Members
11:00 a.m. Blood Pressure screenings – Sanctuary
11:00 a.m. All-church Thanksgiving Dinner – Dodd Hall
4:00 p.m. Confirmation – Wesley Center
5 – 8 p.m. MYF Food Distribution and dinner – Dodd Hall

Monday, November 19

1 – 6:30 p.m. Blood Drive – Dodd Hall
7:00 p.m. Service of Healing & Wholeness – Dodd Hall
8:00 p.m. Finance Committee – Wesley Center

Tuesday, November 20

6:00 p.m. Confirmation – Wesley Center
7:00 p.m. Disciple II – Wesley Center

Wed., November 21

6:00 p.m. Choir rehearsal – St. Mary's Church, 70 Gulf Street
7:00 p.m. Community Thanksgiving worship – St. Mary's

Thursday, November 22

5:30 p.m. Community Suppers – Dodd Hall

Friday, November 23

11 am – 2 pm MYF Christmas tree making – Dodd Hall
2:30 – 8:30 p.m. Church Directory Photos – Dodd Hall

Saturday, November 24

10 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Church Directory Photos – Dodd Hall

Grace Notes
November 11, 2012

Dear Mary Taylor Memorial family,

“It is more blessed to give than to receive” is an oft-quoted scripture (Acts 20:35), usually by pastors and stewardship chairs! The passage is the Apostle Paul attributing these words to the Lord Jesus. If so, they are not included in any of the Gospels!

Still, the truth of this aphorism rings true again and again in generous hearts. We find a freedom, a lightness of heart and a vision of service--all definitions of “blessed,” in my book—when we give to others. Today’s Commitment Sunday is but one way to express our generous hearts. Thank you to all who have come today prepared to make an Estimate of Giving for this church’s ministry 2013. If you are not so prepared today, we welcome your estimate next Sunday or any Sunday soon.

The sacrifice of service by our veterans is another expression of generosity. Thanks to all who have served in the Armed Forces of these United States and for the freedoms we enjoy because you committed to protect them.

Today’s special offering for hurricane relief arises from the generosity of many who spoke to me last Sunday, of whom Faye Zeiner and David Carr were the most passionate advocates. To them, my gratitude. Gifts may be made in the special envelopes in the pew, if by check payable to Mary Taylor Memorial Church, with “UMCOR” in the memo. They will be sent to the United Methodist Committee on Relief. As David pointed out, 100% of your gift goes to hurricane relief. How is this possible? Since we (and many other churches) pay our annual apportionments in full, the administrative costs of UMCOR are already covered! There are many ways to be in mission!

One last thought on generosity: last week’s Trunk or Treat” saw a doubling of attendees to between 80 and 90 people! Thanks to Sylvia Elliot and all the adults who made this event possible for our children. Thanks also to the youth who were lauded by one of our parents for kindness to their child. There are many ways to be generous!

In Christ,

Pastor Brian

AT WORSHIP TODAY

Head Usher (November) - Stacey Riccardi

Liturgist – Dennis Darak

Greeters – Judy Russell and Bev Anderson

Cross Bearer-Tanner Georgelos

Acolytes –Jamie Georgelos and Aaliyah Gonsalves **Bible Bearer** – Abigail Gonsalves

TODAY'S ALTAR FLOWERS are

- In memory of Kristin Ann Carveth, given by her family
- In celebration of Bev Downing's birthday today and in honor of our veterans

WELCOME VISITORS! We pray you experience God's presence among us. Please introduce yourself to the pastor or greeters. Please join in Dodd Hall for Friendship House after Worship.

TO ASSIST YOU IN WORSHIP, see our ushers for:

- Large print Bibles, hymnals and bulletins
- Hearing Assist Devices
- Children's bulletins for ages 3 – 6 and 7 – 12

OFFERING PRAYER CONCERNS: Please use the "Blue Sheets" to share your prayer concerns. You will find them in the attendance pads at the end of each pew or may obtain one from an usher. The ushers collect these during the opening hymn and our Lay Leaders speak them during the Prayer of Intercession and Petition. If you offer intentions on behalf of others, please be sure you have their permission to share their information. Prayers offered via the Blue Sheets are included in our on-line prayer chain and at our Monday night Healing Service. You may also speak your concerns as invited during the prayer.

CHILD CARE: *For children 5 and under* is provided in Wesley Center, building next door to sanctuary – OR – the service may be heard in Dodd Hall, if you wish to use it for restless children during service. *Please note that children over five are expected to remain in the sanctuary; the child care in Wesley Center is not staffed to provide for these children. Our Safe Sanctuary policy requires that children leaving the sanctuary must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.*

INFORMATION: All informational sheets are available in the back of the church.

SERMON COPIES: November 4th is available, in print in the Narthex and on the web at www.mtm-umc.org.

2036

Give Thanks

Give thanks with a grate-ful heart, give thanks to the
Ho - ly One, give thanks be-cause he's
giv-en Je-sus Christ his Son. Give Son. And
now let the weak say, "I am stroog"; let the
poor say, "I am rich be-cause of what the Lord has
done for us." And us." Give
us." Give thanks!

Last time to Coda 1,3 2 D.S.
CODA

CONTACTING THE PASTORS: Pastor Brian is typically in the office Mon.-Thurs. from 9am to Noon (203.874.1982, ext. 11) and by appointment there or elsewhere at other times. E-mail is brian.bodt@yahoo.com and church cell at 203.895.3753. **Use Pastor Brian's cell if timely or an emergency.** Pastor Hal can be reached at vinkhaljane@yahoo.com and at 203.878.8977. Please let us know any time someone needs pastoral care, especially those who are hospitalized. Multiple calls are better than none at all. Most are aware that hospitals no longer provide this information directly to the clergy due to HIPPA privacy laws.

ALTAR FLOWERS ORDERS: Flower orders are always taken for Altar Flowers OR "In Lieu of Flowers" which is an additional opportunity for giving to United Methodist Church Missions (UMCOR or UMArmy and many others – please see info. table in back of church for list) and may be ordered at any time during the course of the year. **When a donation is made in lieu of altar flowers, the cross with a miniature mission scarf will be displayed on the altar in place of flowers.* Please contact Beth O'Brien at 203.877.8668 or by email at bgobrien11@optonline.net or mail: Beth O'Brien, 7 Breakneck Court, Milford, CT 06460.

VITAL CONGREGATION WEEKLY REPORT: November 4: Total Worship Attendance all services: 187(180=7 H&W); Total Offering: \$5,108; Amount given to Charities and Benevolences: \$264; Total Number Persons Engaged in Small Groups: 31; Total number persons received on profession of faith: 0; Total Persons involved in local, national, and international missions: **Important! Small Groups when you meet – please email the church office (mtmumc@sbcglobal) or call (203.874.1982) the number of persons that met.*

NAME TAGS: Please keep them on during Fellowship Hour and return to the table before leaving. Thank you!

WESLEY CENTER ACCESS: All 12-Step, Support Group & Meetings are able to use the upstairs and downstairs of Wesley Center. Contact Paul Downing at 203.876.8540 or Bill Petremont at 203.415.9982 for further information.

ACTIVITIES TODAY

- **FELLOWSHIP HOUR** is hosted by the Worship Committee in Dodd Hall. Come for a hot beverage, a nosh, and conversation.
- **"EXTRAVAGANT GENEROSITY" HEART CARDS** may be taped on the designated bulletin board in Dodd Hall. Share your witness!
- **"COAT" DRIVE DONATIONS** conclude today. Please leave them in Dodd Hall. If you would like to participate in a team to help distribute, there are several daytime dates available: Nov. 14, 16, 19, 20. Please contact Jane Vink if you would like to help (vinkhaljane@yahoo.com or 203-878-8977). God will warm your caring hearts.
- **CONFIRMATION** (Section 2) meets at 4 p.m. in the Wesley Center.
- **METHODIST YOUTH FELLOWSHIP (MYF)** meets at 5 p.m. for "Mission Possible." We will be selecting mission projects to support financially this year.

THIS WEEK

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN meets Tues., November 13th, 10 a.m. in Dodd Hall. We will wrap cans for the Cookie Walk and also have a short business meeting including electing officers. Please bring a lunch.

COME LEARN MORE ABOUT COMMUNITY SUPPERS! All are welcome this Tuesday, Nov. 13, 5-6 p.m. to meet with current leaders of this program to learn how it works and how you can be a part of it. Many hands make light work! If you are interested but cannot attend the meeting, please speak with Deb Dubien or Jane Vink.

"PRAISEMAKERS" CHOIR HAS BEGUN! Children grades 1 – 5 are welcome Wednesdays, 5 – 5:45 p.m. in Dodd Hall through Dec. 19. See Rick Riccardi or Leigh Bak.

CHOIR SCHEDULE: *Praisemakers*, 5 PM; *Bell Choir* 6:30 PM; *Adult choir* 7:45 PM; Please see Rick Riccardi (203.392.5232 or riccardir1@southernct.edu) to join our choirs!

THE MTMUMC GAY-STRAIGHT ALLIANCE meets this Wednesday, Nov. 14, 6:30 p.m. in Wesley Center. All are welcome who desire to learn more or wish to help this ministry move forward. Great snacks will be served! Plans to re-engage the group with Pastor Brian include a small group study after the new year; our relationship with MIND – "Methodists in New Directions"; planning a bowling night and other fellowship opportunities this winter. We may also consider a new name for this ministry. Want to know more? Please contact Marcia Winter (mwinter@optonline.net; 203.878.0814) or Kelly O'Hara (yankee89@optonline.net; 203.874.5136). Please join us!

STAFF-PARISH RELATIONS COMMITTEE meets this Thursday, Nov. 15, 6:30 - 7:20 p.m. in Wesley Center. Our main agenda is to review our Safe Sanctuary policy.

FALL CHURCH CONFERENCE is this Thursday, November 15, 7:30 p.m. in Dodd Hall. Open to all, vote is reserved to members of Mary Taylor Memorial Church “to review and evaluate the total mission and ministry of the church...” including election of officers and Trustees and setting the Pastor’s compensation package for 2013. Our District Superintendent, the Rev. Kenneth Kieffer, will preside. Refreshments will be served: see Leigh Bak if you will bring a baked good! Our *Share-a-Chair* offerings will be presented to the Superintendent. **We will have a sound system for this meeting.** Please plan to attend this important meeting for the ministries and governance of our church.

DECEMBER “BEACON” DEADLINE is this Thursday, November 15. The Beacon deadline is regularly the 15th of the preceding month. Electronic copy preferred to mtmumc@sbcglobal.net, copied to brian.bodt@yahoo.com or hard copy in the office by 2 p.m. Thursday. Thank you.

NEXT SUNDAY

- **WORSHIP: THANKSGIVING SUNDAY AND BIBLE SUNDAY.** Informal hymn singing will precede the service at 9:45 a.m. Bibles will be presented to current third graders; we will receive new members; and we will have a “Mission Minute” from Mary Lou Hastings on our Healing and Wholeness Ministry. Food bags, distributed last week, are due. The message “Praying for What We Need” will be based on I Samuel 1:4-20 and Mark 13:1-8. Blood pressure screenings will follow worship in the sanctuary. Our annual Thanksgiving Dinner hosted by the Men’s Club will be held following worship in Dodd Hall (see following notice).
- **THANKSGIVING SUNDAY POT-LUCK DINNER** *follows worship*, hosted by the Men’s Club. See today’s flier. Bring a favorite ethnic/holiday dish to share. All welcome! To help, contact Jim Repetsky: 203.874.8688; jimrepetsky@snet.net
- **OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD** “shoe boxes” filled with small toys, school supplies, hygiene items, and personal notes for children are due next Sunday. See Cathy Cono with questions (spikkio@optonline.net or 203-645-2362).
- **MYF THANKSGIVING FOOD DISTRIBUTION AND DINNER** is next Sunday, 5-8 p.m. All youth grades 6-12 welcome. We’ll sort and distribute food to local families in need, then return to Dodd Hall for a dinner prepared by the Adult Leaders. Contact Leigh Bak (davidbak@sbcglobal.net; 203.215.0470) for more information.

OUR LIFE IN PRAYER, MINISTRY AND MISSION

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE: Monday, November 19, 1 – 6:30 p.m. in Dodd Hall.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE meets Monday, Nov. 19, 8 p.m. in Wesley Center. Our primary agenda is drafting a proposed 2013 budget for the church. If you are **unable** to attend, contact Chair Nancy Bennett (nancy516@aol.com; 203.530.0176). If you represent a committee or organization, please identify someone to represent you and inform Nancy.

MILFORD COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING EVE WORSHIP will be Wed., Nov. 21, 7 p.m. at St. Mary’s R.C. Church, 70 Gulf Street. An interfaith choir will sing and the sermon will be “Thanks, King!” by Pastor Brian. A special offering will support energy assistance through Milford’s Department of Human Services. Please support this important community opportunity to give thanks to God.

THANKSGIVING DAY 5:30 P.M. COMMUNITY SUPPER is coordinated by Laura and Rich Perregaux (203.520.8183 or misslmp2@yahoo.com). See today’s flier for details and to help donate, set-up, cook, serve or clean-up.

CHURCH PICTORIAL DIRECTORY: Photo sessions are still available at selected times on Nov. 23 from 2:30 – 8:30 p.m. and Nov. 24 from 10 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Register with Cathy Cono, spikkio@optonline.net or 203.878.9218. These Thanksgiving weekend dates are convenient for college students and others living away. No purchase is required to participate and no sales pressure will be exerted. Let’s get 100% participation!

KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS MAGNETS: Membership and Evangelism is selling “Keep Christ in Christmas” car magnets for \$5.00 each. Magnets will be sold at the Cookie Walk and also provided to our college students in their care packages. Makes a great stocking stuffer, teacher gift, or gift to the person who has everything! See Cathy Cono.

THE COOKIE WALK IS COMING DECEMBER 1st! Please donate coffee cans (any size, no cardboard or plastic) and help us bake. Cookies can be dropped off Nov. 29 or 30 or the morning of Dec. 1. Let Joan Zauner (jzauner@yahoo.com; 283.5643) know you’ll help.

WEEKLY BULLETIN NOTICES are due by Noon on Wednesdays, hard copy or to mtmumc@sbcglobal.net. **OFFICE HOURS** are 9 a.m.–2 p.m., Monday–Friday. If Wesley Center is locked, call Sue Miko (203.874.1982) or Pastor Brian (203.895.3753).

FOOD BASKET: Please place non-perishable food items in the basket located in the back of the church & monetary donations in the Beth-El envelope.